

# **PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT - BOARD OF UTILITY COMMISSIONERS**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**The regular meeting of the Pascoag Utility District Board of Utility Commissioners will be held on Monday, June 28, 2010 at 6:00 pm in the District office, Pascoag 253 Pascoag Main Street, Pascoag, RI.**

**Members Present: Chairman Albert Palmisciano, Vice-Chair Ann Polacek, Commissioners Brian Choiniere and Adrien Trudeau**

**Members Absent: Thomas Partridge and Dennis Whitman**

**Also in Attendance: Theodore Garille, General Manager**

**Chairman Palmisciano opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.**

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Moment of Silence-William Mageau**

**3. Public Comment**

**4. Committee Comments**

**• Water and Finance Subcommittee- reported progress.**

**5. Good and Welfare of the District**

**A. Docket No. 1725**

**Ms. Allaire stated that Pascoag Utility District has come out of the moratorium and there have been 62 disconnections. The average**

monthly balance was \$178.25 for those that were terminated. The District had sent out 915 disconnection notices for the month of May. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Trudeau, seconded by Mr. Choiniere. The vote in favor was unanimous.

#### **B. NYPA Firm Hydro**

There will be no reduction in firm hydro for the month of July. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Trudeau, seconded by Ms. Polacek. The vote in favor was unanimous.

#### **C. NEPPA Conference**

Mr. Mageau will be receiving an award posthumously for his years of service at the District. His wife will be receiving the award on his behalf.

#### **D. GNEF Update**

The goal for GNEF was to raise \$600,000 and at the end of this year they were able to collect over \$700,000. The average grant amount issued to an individual/family was \$500.00.

#### **E. Rock Ave Leak**

The water department's new system equipment recently detected a sizeable leak on Rock Ave. PUD staff opened up the road and were able to isolate and fix the leak.

#### **F. Storm Outages**

A few weeks ago Pascoag Utility District had two severe thunderstorms that came through. Three phase wires were down and some transformers were damaged. Pascoag had to call for mutual aide. The equipment that was needed to repair different areas was delivered by other utilities.

## **G. Thank You**

There were three thank you notes that were presented. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Trudeau, seconded by Mr. Choiniere. The vote in favor was unanimous.

## **6. Approval of Minutes**

- **Facilities Subcommittee Meeting-May 24, 2010**
- **Finance and Water Subcommittee-May 24, 2010**
- **Regular BUC Meeting-May 24, 2010**

Motion to approve as submitted made by Mr. Choiniere, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous

## **7. Unfinished Business**

### **10-06-Action Item: General Manager**

The Human Resource Subcommittee met and wanted to recommend Ms. Judith Allaire for the position of General Manager to take effect October 2, 2010. This would be a six month contract and then reevaluated. Ms. Polacek made a motion to appoint Ms. Judith Allaire as General Manager effective on October 2, 2010 with a six month probation and then reevaluation, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **10-09 Net Metering Tariff**

Ms. Allaire stated that this tariff has been submitted and approved by the PUC. It was effective June 2, 2010.

### **10-13 Surge Suppressor Tariff**

Ms. Allaire stated that this tariff has been submitted and approved by the PUC.

### **10-19 Credit Card Fee Waiver**

**Pascoag Utility District has submitted a request to the RIPUC to grant a waiver of the credit card fee to PUD customers. If Pascoag does not charge a credit card fee to its customers, the rates for processing the transaction are much lower ultimately benefiting the customer. The PUC will be ruling on the waiver tomorrow.**

#### **10-18 Pay off of long term debt**

**Ms. Allaire stated that last month the Board approved the pay off of the mortgage on the District office. The Electric Department is now debt free.**

#### **10-03 Changes to Charter**

**Mr. Garille stated that everything that was submitted through the State and House side went through. The Utility District should know within the next few days if it has been approved. The Board now has to meet to make sure the charter changes match the Bylaws.**

#### **09-24 L'Energia Plant**

**Ms. Allaire stated that she had received an email from Energy New England updating her on the status of the project. ENE expected it to be a relatively quick process but there have been some hold ups.**

#### **8. New Business**

##### **10-21- Wind Evaluation**

**Mr. Garille stated that Pascoag had university students from UMASS Amherst up at Buck Hill conducting a wind evaluation years ago. The results were not encouraging. The Town of Burrillville has begun to look into the possibility of putting a wind turbine on Buck Hill and is looking preliminarily into a wind study. It has recently been**

discovered that the entire Buck Hill area does not belong to the Town as many people have thought over the years. There's also the issue of a wind tower needing a circumference of 53 acres to be built.

ENE is now looking into a wind powered plant for Pascoag to purchase energy from.

#### **10-22 Action Item: 125th Anniversary Committee Budget**

Ms. Polacek made a motion to allot \$500.00 start up money to the 125th Anniversary Committee, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **9. Financial Reports**

#### **A. Electric Department- April 2010**

#### **B. Water Department- April 2010**

Ms. Allaire reviewed the electric and water department financial reports.

Motion to approve as submitted made by Mr. Choiniere, seconded by Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **10. Executive Session**

To go into Executive Session for the purpose of expenditure of public funds pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(7). The minutes of said meeting shall remain confidential for as long as necessary pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, until a majority of the Board shall vote to open said minutes as provided for and subject to the open meeting law.

To go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Exxon Mobil litigation pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2). The minutes of said

meeting shall remain confidential for as long as necessary pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, until a majority of the Board shall vote to open said minutes as provided for and subject to the open meeting law.

Mr. Choniere made a motion to exit Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Polacek made a motion to seal the minutes, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous

Mr. Choiniere made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Ms. Polacek. The vote in favor was unanimous. Chairman Palmisciano adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm.

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**Brian Choiniere, Secretary**  
**Board of Utility Commissioners**

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**Desarae Downs, Recording Secretary**